

SUFOG

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E.MAIL ADDRESS : SOUTHAMPTON@SUFOG.FREESERVE.CO.UK

European FT Initiative.

Calling all UFO Research Groups in both the United Kingdom & on the European Mainland. An attempt to track the black triangular-shaped UFO across Europe during the years 1993 - 1997 is underway. Based upon Project FT's database which contains some 7,000 sighting reports, additional FT reports are required which will be added to the database and which may possibly reveal just where the

Cont. on page 2..

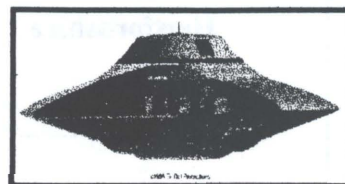
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SUFOG
25 WESTON GROVE RD
WOOLSTON
SOUTHAMPTON
HAMPSHIRE
SO19 9TE

Since the last newsletter, SUFOG has the following announcement.... We have our own 'Smoking Gun' UFO footage... That's right... We have video footage, that at present, looks just as impressive than the NASA footage. But first... UFO Magazine has just released the Smoking Gun video and for £16.99 or so, I would say, keep your money and spend it on something more worth while... Of the 90 minutes, 70 minutes of it is an interview with the TV producer in Canada that recorded it and secondly, Graham Birdsall gives you background into the subject of UFOlogy. As for the NASA footage... 20 minutes of rather poor quality footage, that really, does nothing for me at all. Okay, we see these 'things' floating around in space...

Alien life forms... possible.. giant alien jellyfish.. possible.... The problem is, we know little about our own planet and as for space... we know even less... I found the video boring, tedious to watch and quite frankly rather a let down. After all the hype that the 11th March the footage would be released to the world... Quests web site showed 20 mins or so of the footage and was very poor quality and I ended up disconnecting from the internet. Also, the press around the world seemed to of missed the great released as non of the British National Newspapers covered this great event of the millennium. I have not heard of any newspapers in this country that has even mentioned this video



footage... Why ? If it was to be the 'Smoking Gun' of UFOlogy why didn't the newspapers splash it across their pages... they didn't.. Did someone tell them not to ? I still cannot understand how, the footage was downloaded from the NASA TV site and packaged as a video tape and sold on the general market. Surely, there are such things as copyright. If we copied a Quest video, packaged it up and sold it on the open market... Then we would be hit for 3 six by copyright and dragged up before a court faster than you can say sorry.... So, save your money and invest it in something that you would get greater pleasure out of .. Like subscribing to a local UFO group and support them... They need it more.

Cont. from page 1...

FT has its entrance / exit windows. All contributors will receive a report of our findings.

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SUFOG SKYWATCH - PORTSDOWN HILL ;
18th MARCH 2000..
SUFOG'S 'SMOKING GUN' FOOTAGE...

What follows is Tom Trubridge's own words about the video footage he took on the above skywatch...

'During a SUFOG skywatch on Saturday the 18th March 2000 at 23.10 hrs an object came into view travelling West to East over the City of Portsmouth. We could not make out any navigation lights, in fact, the object looked like an orange blob through optics. Just in case it did turn out to be unusual, I decided to film the object with my video camera (Sony Handycam video 8 with 13 Xs optical zoom (CCD-TR401E PAL). The camera having no focus lock, careful zooming was required to lock onto the object. This revealed some unusual movements, with full zoom I was able to pick out various landscape features including datum objects i.e. electricity pylon, city lights and bushes. When viewed the object appears to make a rapid reverse movement to the right and equally rapid change to its original direction. I first thought this to be a trick of the camera, but after viewing on the big screen I am seen to move the camera after the object has moved to the right to in fact to track its new direction. Luckily, the objects true motion is picked out due to datum object i.e. the gaps in the bushes. At this time I am heard to say 'It's moved to the left' but in fact its true motion was to the right. Hopefully, computer analyses of this footage can be arranged with Paul Vigay. Copies exist with Steve Gerrard (SUFOG), Chris Trubridge and Tom Trubridge. The sky watch in question had been attended by three SUFOG members, Tom Trubridge, Steve Gerrard and Andy Philips. Tom's long standing UFOlogist Chris and wife Pauline from Warminster, Wiltshire.

Our location was at the view point car park at Fort Nelson, Portsdown Hill overlooking Portsmouth'.

Tom Trubridge.

So, there you have it readers, another 'Object' either seen or caught on camera at a SUFOG skywatch. This is becoming more and more common on our sky watches and I am wondering if we are watching them surely, they are watching us....

When more data about this footage has come to light, I hope Tom will update us and certainly, at our next group meeting on the 20th April we will discuss the footage and I may ask Tom if we can show it to all the group members that attend the meeting. So, forget Quests 'Smoking Gun' footage and watch this space. SUFOG and other small research groups are in the subject of UFOlogy for one reason to find the 'REAL' truth of what is out there...

Steve Gerrard (SUFOG Founder)

SUFOG GROUP MEETING 16th March 2000

The meeting was intended to kick start the group into getting of its bum and get on with it... and we certainly came to one or two decisions...

1. The members were informed that we now have a subscription membership of 48 people and a bank balance of £380.

2. SUFOG membership will now be £6.50 per year for 6 issues of the newsletter and membership cards. Also joint membership is now £ 9 and a family membership (4) people is £ 12. Its was a difficult decision, BUT, the group has lost a considerable amount of money through postage and copying costs as the price of membership, has not kept up with the rising costs of material (The first rise since the group was founded in 1991). Hopefully, this will be the last rise for a few years to come and I hope that it does not put you off from re-subscribing to SUFOG when your membership expires.

3. On the 21st October, I am planning an open day at Church Road Centre, in Woolston. This will give you a chance to meet group members, see static displays of UFO material, a slide and video presentation and an afternoon lecture with a special speaker yet to be arranged. Ticket prices for this event are to be set at our next group meeting and I expect them to be around the £3.50 mark in advance and £4.50 on the day. Tickets will be on sale from the 1st July 2000 from the editorial address.

4. There will be **NO** more Sunday afternoon meetings from now on as the last one had to be cancelled due to the response of 3 people. There may (?) be the odd Sunday afternoon when I book the hall for a speaker, but only if we get enough pre-ticket sales to make it viable and therefore not wasting my time and efforts in arranging these events and no one turns up.

5. We agreed on the SUFOG logo that was produced by group member Stacey Hawkins in Derbyshire and this will be used on all SUFOG headed paper and material produced to publicise the group as well as some of the items under point 6.

6. Group member Steve Rider has come up with the

idea of producing merchandise material such as T-Shirts, Baseball Caps, Jigsaw Puzzles, Clocks and Coasters with the SUFOG Logo to sell by mail order only. We will produce a sample copy and orders will be taken for each item. It will be easier and cheaper to produce them when required, rather than produce 20 base ball caps and never sell them.

7. I also said that I will be attending the Dorchester Conference on the 8th April and that there was space in the car. (See next edition of newsletter).

8. One final thing was that we have decided that we should meet on a monthly basis, build up the Thursday night meetings and then, see where the group goes from there. There is a nucleus of 7 members willing to through their weight behind the group and this is why, we are heading for 2001 in a much better position.

9. Group members positions

Steve Gerrard - Group Founder - SUFOG Editor - Chief Investigator

Steve Rider - Group Investigator.

Bill Smith - Group Investigator - Video and Audio specialist.

Andy Philips - Group Investigator.

Ernie Sears - Group Investigator, Public Relations Officer (PRO) and newsletter contributor.

It may be that in the near future that there may well be more group positions to fill and I may be 'Advertising' these or contacting people direct to see if they want to take up any new positions within the group.

Planned events :

Avebury Sky Watch - 24th - 25th June.
21.st October - SUFOG Open Day.

A SAD FAREWELL...

It is with great sadness that I received a letter informing me that a dear friend, Patricia Finch passed away on the 27th February 2000. Patricia ran the Axminster Light Centre, and we exchanged letters and publication for a number of years. It was with great sadness to receive the letter from her friend Lilian, and I hope that Patricia has now found peace and that her memory stays in our hearts.

"DEATH IS NOT EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT, BUT PUTTING OUT THE LAMP, BECAUSE THE DAWN HAS COME".

Patricia is now at peace and hopefully, the world will one day, be at peace. (Steve G).

ITEMS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT BY ERNIE SEARS...

Unless you have taken out a mortgage (!) you may not possess a massive tome entitled "Alien Discussions".. it costs £60 in English money, and by sheer coincidence (?) fell into my hands late '99 courtesy of our Steve Gerrard who coincidentally (?) happened to be doing a talk up in Surrey for Lionel Beer who coincidentally (?) had a copy for sale and coincidentally (?) did a deal with Steve... otherwise I wouldn't have been able to borrow the book !

In it's almost 700 pages the book covers the 1992 USA Massachusetts Abduction Conference and once you have waded through it you would have NO DOUBT AT ALL that the abduction scenario exists. Thus you'd join those of us who have actually been through it all ! I came across an account by one of the Conference Panel, Richard Boylan, PH.d, in anthropology, and a BA in Philosophy among other credits. In that same year of 1992, before the June conference, he became a participant observer in the abduction scenario when he suffered a car stop and subsequent classical extraterrestrial contact experience... he prefers not to call it an abduction. Consequently he was able to examine the event from an "insider" point of view and had what he called a

IN THE NEXT EDITION OF SUFOG...

The next edition of the SUFOG newsletter will be devoted to Quest's latest video The Smoking Gun and the NASA footage. I have received some '**Very Interesting**' e-mails to say the least and I will be looking at the footage as well as passing more in-depth personal ideas as to the 'origins' of and 'interpretations as to what was filmed in space. I will be looking at statements made by Christopher Ryan, James Oberg, Graham Birdsall and Russel Callaghan and Claire Williams who is Head Astronomer, and Planetarium Manager of the Canberra Space Dome and Observatory in Australia. This footage has drawn great debate and a debate that will probably go on and on and on..... and we will probably never know the real answer... Alien, Space Debris, Ice Crystals or something else....

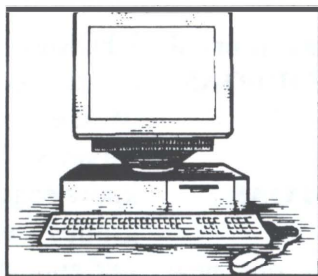
Also, I will be reviewing the BEST CD ROM collection of UFO material that I have seen in a many a good year... Produced by the Woolwich UFO Research Group, no serious UFOlogist should be without it and at a price of £8.00 for a '**2**'.... Yes 2 CD ROM set, then no one can complain at the cost as the CD ROM's hold up to **650 MB EACH** on each disc.... (See advert with newsletter).

Also, due to lack of space, I will be doing a full review of the Dorchester Conference that I attended on the 8th April 2000 and I will be taking a look at this very interesting event.

The next edition of the newsletter promises to be a packed edition, and if you have any articles, stories that you would like to see appear in the newsletter, then please send the item to me no later than the 1st June 2000 to appear in the May / June edition of the newsletter.

"tune up" of his inner concousness. He also said that as more and more scientists come out of their closet would have more information to work with. His encounter was reported to the National Security Agency. One wonders what they made of that and what they did with it ! You probably hadn't heard of this ! Neither has the world in general of UFOlogists in particular ! Along, no doubt, with much more of the same.

SUFOG NEWSLETTER VIA THE INTERNET..



Your newsletter can be e.mailed to you every two months, if you can't wait for your version via snail mail. But, you will need **MICROSOFT PUBLISHER 1996 OR LATER** as it will not work in any other format. Let me know and I will e.mail it to you direct. I e.mail it on the weekend and it will take around 8 minutes to download (2.5MB file) Your membership to the newsletter would still remain at £6.50 per year for this.

So far we have 8 members / exchange groups that have taken up this version and it seems at present that no one has had any major problems. So, save time and a few trees and why not try having your newsletter e.mailed straight to your computer. Either drop me a line via snail mail or e.mail me and I will add your details to the e.mail mailing list.

SUFOG CONTACT CORNER....

Cornwall UFO Research Group :
01872 76381

London UFO Studies :
0181 270 9919

UFO Monitors East Kent :
01303 254774

British Flying Saucer Bureau :
01454 778649

Phenomenon Research Association :
01332 761464

Skysearch UFO Research Organisation :
01273 300805

Malcolm Robinson(SPI England) :
0181 998 4936
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Reply to the Review for the European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies [EJUFOAS] (Review was by Ernie Sears).

Craig Roberts, Editor in Chief of EJUFOAS..

Thank you for the solid review of our new publication. We have just published Volume 1(1) covering UFOlogical debate from Italy, Austria, Spain, Romania and the UK. It appears that we are moving quickly towards 'bringing the European UFOlogical Community together'. The new edition is thermally bound (62 pages long) and this will now be common for all future volumes. Volume 1(2), to be published in September 2000, is already filing up with more contemporary and cutting-edge papers from around Europe.

The reviewer, however, appears to have missed the point of the publication with a cutting remark about how we are trying to quash the direct equating of UFO with Flying Saucer and asking whether anyone from the UFO group TRUTH had seen an alien spacecraft. Well, members of TRUTH have seen things we could call UFOs (meaning Unidentified Flying Objects) and these are under investigation. Being an objective UFO group means that we would have to sieve through at least 10 theories of UFO origin (this would increase to over 15 for potential alien abduction cases), so no firm conclusions have been made yet. Most 'UFOlogists' jump straight onto the alien bandwagon, when in fact all the other UFO theories out there have at least some firm evidence (see Roberts [2000] for the current state of UK UFOlogical Groups).

On creating the only Advanced Level Qualification in UFOlogy in the UK, I had the belief that objectivity is needed in this field otherwise it will die an untimely death. I am under the belief that this has worked. Over 120 students of the course have thanked me for giving them the knowledge of many UFO origin theories (and abduction theories) and are more geared up to research UFOlogy objectively.

We are the first to admit that we are by no means up to the standard necessary for investigating cases objectively. This is because we are waiting for a sufficient number of students to complete this six units (minimum time frame = 2 years) in order to have a 'crack team' of qualified UFOlogists.

Our group has researched many angles of

UFOlogy that others appear to have overlooked, but are crucial for the advancement of the field. For instance, Roberts (2000) surveyed UK UFO organisations as to their knowledge and research skills. Many good groups exist but other researchers are self-appointed with no research background. Would you trust someone to install your new central heating system who is qualified as a confectioner ? Currently, we have projects running on children's perceptions of UFOs, self-generated hypnotic alien abductions and many others that are needing to be started (we have lots of ideas but lack manpower and money !).

I do urge readers of this newsletter to at least try one edition of EJUFOAS. I am confident you will enjoy it. One edition costs £4.75, cheques payable to Totton College - send it to EJUFOAS, Totton College, Water Lane, Totton, Southampton, SO40 3ZX.

Roberts, C. (2000) 'UK UFO organisations : What do they have knowledge of, and what do they investigate ?' European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies, Vol. 1(1), p.26-32.

OPEN LETTER TO CRAIG DOUGLAS OF EJUFOAS FROM ERNIE SEARS....

Dear Craig ; An apology for apparently using what your reply to my magazine review in a recent SUFOG newsletter took as a 'cutting remark'... it wasn't meant that way and my only excuse is that I am a poor writer ! It is probably significant to the matter that I had already begun an article for submitting to your splendidly produced magazine but abandoned it halfway since I felt, yes, I am somewhat distanced from your organisations expressed aims. Sorry ! This is nothing unusual when one has actually undergone the experiences loosely called "abductions" and "encounters".. while still perusing the enigma we do so in a different fashion.. "acceptability" may cover it. The "novelty" wears off !

Unfortunately I didn't put the apparent

'quashing' the direct equating of UFO and Flying Saucer better, either ... see excuse above ! Again, my first actual sighting of such a craft... being chased ineffectually by two Meteor jets in 1960 over Portsdown Hill.. denied totally within ten minutes by the airbase involved... was when they WERE, in fact, called "flying Saucers". Much later... in the seventies ?.. my other encounters used the term in use of being UFO's. It isn't significant.. just common usage. I hope I put THAT well !

I was further interested in the information brought up by something else I said... members of the Totton TRUTH organisation HAVE in fact 'seen things they could call UFO's' and they are 'under investigation'. Good... but did they REPORT these to their local Southampton UFO Group or indeed any authority that might well eliminate satisfactorily the bulk, if not all, of those objects ? (Why have these also not been 'Published' in the TRUTH magazine for others to read about, as TRUTH surly must be a tool for members to express their thoughts, ideas and sightings... Steve G).... Sharing, totally, all information, is essential and is one of the weaknesses of the **WHOLE** UFOlogical area. In reviewing a number of UFOlogical and other paranormal magazines bi-monthly for the SUFOG newsletter I learn much that I would otherwise be ignorant of. See this issues reviews ! You also say, Craig, that 'most UFOlogists jump straight on the alien bandwagon. 'Probably right although' I have my doubts. 'Alien' does not necessarily mean, mistakenly, from another planet. It means... again from personal experiences... something that can only be called 'alien' since that is what it, or they, display in terms of technology, something akin to our term "magic", something which is 'alien' to our knowledge, there is no alternative.

I trust this clears the air. Meanwhile best wishes for the future of EUFOAS and TRUTH.

APPEAL TIME ...

Did anyone happen to have Channel 5 Tv on on Tuesday 4th April, The Rossanne Show, at 9 a.m. Did you record it ? The first 15 minutes did an interview with a chap who has many many clips and photo's of UFO's... I caught about 4 minutes at the end. If you copied, the editor would love to hear from you and maybe borrow the video tape to have a look at.

ALAN ALFORD IN SOUTHAMPTON...

Alan Alford will be in Southampton on Tuesday the 9th May at 7.30 p.m. giving a talk about his new book : 'When the Gods Came Down'. The venue will be at Waterstones book shop. I do not know if you have to get tickets prior to the event or you can get them on the door. SUFOG will be there hopefully to Interview Mr. Alford on tape or to actually video the lecture for SUFOG's group records.

Local Sighting Report and Follow up.. By Ernie Sears.

A SUFOG sighting report passed on to me by Steve looked good.. and two meetings with the witness have also proved interesting. he incident took place on Boxing Night 1999 at 11.10 p.m. and involved the witness who lives in my own village of Netley Abbey who was startled to see her glass panelled front door illuminated by a pink light. Thinking it looked as if someone was coming up the drive she went to a window and saw a big and very 'intense' light hovering over her rooftop. No sound was heard, but suddenly.. the incident lasted for an estimated 3 minutes... two small white lights merged with the pink beams and the globular phenomenon shot off to the North-East at a speed estimated as faster than any aircraft. The witnesses husband was present. In two subsequent meetings at my home, it was revealed that "poltergeistic" type phenomena had occurred at the witnesses home in the recent past and a period of missing time before the incident. Irritating that I must have missed the Boxing Night incident by minutes since I was returning from a dance along Hamble Lane prior to turning off to Netley Abbey, after the event had happened !

Group Meeting 20th May 2000.

This was a very successful meeting and although it was the same faces, we did have a new person turn up for the meeting. I understand that when I went, things got a bit strange to say the least. Full report in the next edition of the newsletter. Strange that... When I don't attend a meeting or I am looking the other way, things seem to happen. It must be me... I must be blocking the 'Other Worldly Spirits' from getting through to people !!!!

Next Meeting : 18th May - 7.30 p.m.

Steve Rider will be giving a special talk on the paranormal including ghosts etc. This promises to be a very interesting talk and at £2.00, well worth coming along to listen too (Also cheap drinks as well !!!). Thanks Steve and I for one will be there this time....

Avebury 2000.

It is that time of year folks for the SUFOG pilgrimage to Avebury and the stones. So far, there are 8 people interested in coming already. If you want to come along, please complete the enclosed form, with name and contact telephone number. Replies need to be received by the 31st of May so we can book mini buses etc. Also, a £5 deposit is required (**Non-Returnable**) as the trip for the weekend will be £15... This is promised to be a great weekend (Hair legs, muscles, T-shirts and short shorts a must....). Times are to be verified, but I envisage an early start of around 9 a.m. and returning home something like 3 p.m. on the Sunday afternoon. You will have to provide your own food, drinks etc whilst there and the group may well buy a couple of portable BBQ's for the vigil. There will be time to take in a number of Public Houses on the trip, but if you get too drunk, we will leave you at Avebury to stagger home ! Seating will be limited to a mini bus that can carry up to 16 people. If we get inundated (!!!!) with people wanting to come along, then we will hire 2 mini buses for the trip.

SUFOG CONFERENCE 1999 VIDEO'S ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT THE UNBEATABLE PRICE OF £ 15.00 INCLUDING POSTAGE. (AVAILABLE FROM EDITORIAL ADDRESS).

SUFOG DIARY - 2000..

Thursday Group Meetings :

7.30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

18th May

15th June

20th July

21st September

19th October

16th November

16th December

All Day Meeting :

21st October 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sky Watch :

5th May

23rd September

11th November

Avebury Sky Watch :

24th - 25th June.

Christmas Party :

16th December :

7.30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

AGM :

19th October :

7.30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Please contact the Editor before the above dates to confirm that the Sky Watch / Meeting are still going ahead. This is because Sky Watch's are likely to be cancelled / changed due to weather conditions, and other commitments that the editor is not aware of at the time of publication of the newsletter..



MAGAZINE REVIEWS
BY ERNIE SEARS.

INUFOR DIGEST is the Australian magazine standing for the Independent Network of UFO Researchers and there's two on the stocks here this time... both vastly, even radically, different, in context.

SEPTEMBER '99 is a peach for UFOlogists world-wide... informative article on SETI from the point of view of "home" researchers and their web sites, not sure if we are EVER going to solve that one since I feel the ball is strictly in "their" court. Still..... The continuing "conspiracy" surrounding Area 51 is enough to make one think afresh.. article from High Times. UFO researcher Barry Taylor video'd a "cluster" of UFO's.. 'almost balloons' he said at first. Shades of similar incidents here, eh ? In depth article on the Mars mysteries. Sightings and abduction reports. "Theatre in the Sky" by Mike Farrell details video's etc including much from Quest's commercial output, plus that "Phenomena" Exhibition. Interview with the "Prophet Yahweh" in Nevada by Tom King reveals that characters apparent ability to "call up" UFO's at will ! Mike Farrell's concluding shots say ; 'The only real revolutionary act remaining is to tell the truth about everything' ! What a world we'd have THEN ! But don't hold our breath !

DECEMBER '99 issue makes startling reading, an issue devoted

totally to prophets and soothsayers etc in history and their forecasts involving the Millennium 2000. Much of that failed to live up to prognostications, some did, and some... dare I suggest ? .. may well have happened, is STILL happening, a quiet revolution ? Dramatic scenario, article by Moira McGhee certainly gives one food for serious thought, while the closing item, "Part of the problem or Part of The Answer" ? hits home to myself and hopefully many others whose "encounters" have changed their lives, hopefully for the better of our fellows and indeed the planet. Only time... which we may not have much of, will tell... Contact details of this very factual and hard hitting magazine from ; PO Box 783, Kogarah, New South Wales 2217, Australia.

ABDUCTION SKYWATCH... shock, horror, or delight ?.. is Kevin McClure's six pager which will be the 'last one for now' although we are promised, (threatened ?) with maybe an intermittent, bigger, longer publication. Oh hell ! I said some time back I'd given up on Kev. But "know thine enemy", eh ? Kevin's opening shots on 'dubious and un-argued abduction accounts' fired at Robert Moore who had suggested an "abduction conference" and Jenny Randles in particular who 'feeds the myth'... need I go on wasting space ? Kevin's ego says his audience isn't growing but it's 'great to have an appreciative' such. Whose the other one, then, Kev ? Onto poor old Jenny again who 'cannot prove' her statement's on abduction figures in one of her books since such is 'never investigated from a "prove it" standpoint. Mostly by "sceptics", I would suggest, Kevin, and ONLY if they ignore certain facts which don't fit their pet theories... ever heard of Albert Budden ?.. and quite frankly, those of us who have had the experiences you deride and dismiss don't give a damn about debunkers etc. If you forced yourself to watch that THIS MORNING UFO slot on Granada in March, both Alan Godfrey, the ex-policeman abductee, and author Timothy Good, gave the resident sceptic a right old drubbing since they were speaking **THE TRUTH** and **HE** was making unfounded, on the evidence given, suggestions.

A Parthian shot at BUFORA too as Kevin teeters on his other soapbox of dismissing regression hypnotherapy and a suggested abductee conference under the BUFORA umbrella from UFOIN's Robert Moore. Kevin chucks in his usual diatribe about child abuse etc, which as I've said in the past most of us agree is obscene anyway. What it has to do with abductions I can only think lies in the dark depths of Kevin McClures psyche ! Enough said...but try 3 Claremont Grove, Leeds, L53 1AX for advance notice of the proposed new publication....

OVNI and it's the Jan / Feb issue of Omar Fowler's small, but beautifully shaped, publication, the end product of many years of experience and it only gets better ! Omar's editorial covers the history of the enigma in compact style, from the pre-war

"plasma ball" of 1938 via the WW2 Foo Fighters and up to the present day triangular species... Derbyshire well in the forefront of those it seems... and the 'expectations' of alien contact in the Millennium. "Student discovers nine new planets"... so what's new ? Derbyshire sighting reports. Some from Spain, and London, and West Midlands, plus Mablethorpe, Lincs, Northampton, and Shanghai ! Nicely printed magazine, £1 bi-monthly from 94 The Circle, Sinfen, Derby. DE24 9H.

OVNI for March / April is also to hand... subtitled "At The Cutting Edge"... military secrecy update says the USA NSA has now TWO BILLION communication channels active, world-wide, daily !... followed by several dramatic sightings in Cumbria... reactivated underground base at RAF Skendleby ?... 1999 Crop circle phenomenon Doncaster area... another Flying Triangle near Mablethorpe seen by same couple in January issue... MUFON claims physical evidence of abductions found in house dust of abductees homes !... MUST inspect my batchelor pad !... Massachusetts Flying Triangle reported... ditto "gold" one in Indiana... police and civilians multi-witnessed Ohio, Illinois, huge silent low and slow triangle, total 70 witnesses January / February 2000 ! ... Another fine issue of OVNI !

APRA .. the pocket sized and nicely printed edition of Oxon based Anomalous Phenomena Research Agency, March issue.. the cover tellingly overlaid with a prominent "SYNCHRONICITY" logo... inspired in 'recognition of many events that have been happening to so many of us in recent times', as says Brian James, in his editorial piece. 'Interaction of multiple phenomena... and... other researchers 'slowly coming together to discuss experiences'.. and further, 'human interaction with the paranormal' and... nice one, Brian, the wider "other world" ! All such music to my ears and hopefully, others, as we move into areas scorned in the earlier years. Articles include "CETI, SETI, and UFO's", a review of a talk by Brian James, to, bravely, the Hanney Astronomical Society ! Intriguing personal sightings article covering 1997 and up to 2000.. more of that "cluster" or "formation".. see earlier. "Flying Triangles explained"... conclusion ; case not closed ! Astronomy notes.

Rendlesham revisited October 1999, gripping !.. crop circle views ditto.. Big Cat diary.. and sonic booms.. "Propulsion of alien craft" by Jim Rayner and there you go. Nice selection and to date, a swap basis or free although donations welcome. APRA, PO Box 135, Didcot, OX11 9YA.

NUFON... Northern UFO News... comes from Jenny Randles dated "The End (of 1999) with the not unusual jolly cartoon cover of a UFO on, apparently, springs, and happy looking grey therein ! Was it REALLY a 'Happy New Millennium' then ? Not according to the media. 'Course, THEY don't mention UFO's ! Nicely put aims of the proposed UFOIN investigation and research team where 'believers in the can sit comfortably alongside near total sceptics'.. now THAT sounds very progressive. Jenny is certainly right when she says the MOD won't be running scared of that obscenely reneged on Freedom of Information Act ! Blair and Co. will use it to the bitter end of whatever they desire ! however, THE TRUTH will come out.. hopefully UFO will be at the cutting edge ! Ex Labour Defence Minister Peter Kilfoyle might be useful since he is now on the Opposition ! Project FT sighting information says 45 % over nuclear installations.. it left out the Hinkley Point, Somerset, ones ! UFOIN's 2000 prog. listed... looks interesting and those envisaged "hard copies" desirable, if, like me, you haven't been overtaken by web site technology etc ! Magazine and book reviews look tempting too.. "Strange Daze"... 'daft if you miss it' says Jenny ! Sighting reports add more to the jigsaw. That Livingstone photo abduction might have connections with a video recording, same area. "Vanishing" phenomena ; Can Jenny bring to mind that similar incident on a Welsh mountain side involving boy and father... Machynlleth ? Always an interesting, sometimes controversial magazine ; 1 Hallsteads Close, Dove Holes (Tornado Town, Jenny ?) Buxton, High Peak, Derbyshire, SK17 8BS. £6.00 for 5 issues payable to NUFON.

AWARENESS...from Contact International UFO Research. Pocket sized, Autumn '99, 30 odd pages, packed with ; Oxfordshire '99 crop circles, that total eclipse, editorial Millenniums prognosis, "synchronicity" event that Geoff Ambler muses on, at Glastonbury.. happens, mate !... black triangle report from man who was flying his model aircraft and felt 'disturbed' afterwards ! No wonder, his

knowledge of aircraft and defence developments were his occupation and hobby ! "Blushing Moon" report... no wonder, looking at our planet nowadays ! That amazing Scole Experiment book itemised.. sighting reports from USA and Oxfordshire etc... Ancient Egyptian history and melted mountains etc article by Michael Soper reminded me of another Pyramid being discovered currently under the sands.. very strange object captured on video over Essex, 1994 and 1996, complete with "beings looking through a curved window". Not forgetting the unforgettable (!) article headed "Is Earth Contaminated ? Enquiry" by Michael Soper.. which takes one out into the unknowable and leaves one thinking how it frustratingly explains the whole enigma so long as we let it ! Hmm ! From Po Box 23, Wheatley, Oxon, OX33 1FL, at £9 for 4, £14 for 8.

THE AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN, President and Editor Judith Magee, who joined the parent Society, the Victorian UFO Research, in 1958... wow ! so listen closely. Those indium lights put into orbit by the USA about 70 of 'em I think... travel in trios thus causing confusion unless you stick with them and note their on and off behaviour... anyway, I see from the Daily Telegraph that they are going to be destroyed by deliberate decaying orbits until they burn up... so there ! Interesting radar UFO case from the 1955 era... the legendary George D. Fawcett writes on 'A Challenge to Scientific Investigations'.. some useful tips on repetitive aspects of sightings... Gordon Creighton of Flying Saucer Review fame relates a report on a UFO over the Bournemouth area... 1960 ... another over the Winchester bypass.. same year... and yet another in the Bournemouth suburbs.. Canford Heath, same as the first incident !.. all by the same driver. Coincidentally (?) the first UFO hovered and followed the car and even stopped when the witness drove to a nearby Police House where two officers came out and watched... here's the coincidence !... as it slowly faded and became invisible... although it's presence could still be FELT ! Note my comments on the NUFON magazine. Much much more in the magazine.. nuggets of very significant evidence that my reading of world-wide material puts together more pieces ! That space shuttle video by our friend "Willie" too.. even if not actual craft, I reckon LIFE but not as we know it Jim ! Hmm ! No space for more but try PO Box 1043, Moorabbin, Victoria, 3189, Australia, for subs, running from full membership for the equivalent of \$20 Australian downwards.

UPRI... two magazines from UFO and Paranormal Research Ireland... a glossy and in full colour one especially produced as an analysis of video footage shot by Dave Loftus during July / August 1999... please note another **FORMATION** of 15 or so filmed at night and sometimes pairs or singles. In all honesty, even the cameraman concludes they are **BIRDS**, possibly seagulls, but he is also uncertain about some of the movements. On various dates they appear late at night... between 20.00 and 01.00,,, bit late for birds, you reckon ? Shouldn't they be asleep ? I mean, have YOU ever seen birds flying at those hours ? Shades of the Tremonton, Utah, film ? A lot of time and trouble went into this special **UPRI** mag.. maps, stills, etc, etc. I dunno !

UPRI.. **THE NEWSLETTER**.. issue ONE dated for 2000... rumours of a "new" Stealth.. a "waverider" hypersonic bomber... travelling at Mach 5... etc, etc... may already be in experimental use. None the less, those of us having been with the enigma for many m,any years, practical experience says don't try it on, fellars... actual craft of super technology have been performing impossible by our standards manoeuvres for yonks, quite often being "chased" but **NOT CAUGHT** by fighters.. and hey, this new lot don't get chased.. they are also **NOT SILENT** at close quarters.. one is blasted off atop a rocket before reaching it's operating height.. my own theory is no other species from "elsewhere" is going to allow US lot into their whatever universe or dimension and certainly not a planet ! No way ! So forget that Area 51 back engineering or "swap" technology. Whatever and whoever "they" are they hold all the aces ! ok.. **UPRI** also has article on the MJ12 controversy.. in depth.. then "moving statues, UFO's ghosts", and all such things paranormal. Plus a PS page on those video incidents... seems that the actual eyeballing of the objects produced different theories.. "birds" not one of 'em. Certainly the military took a strong interest in the ones that moved at 'tremendous speed'. OK address etc ; **UPRI**, Po Box 7041, Harmonstown, Dublin 5, Northern Ireland. Subs ; are 30 x 30 Irish postage stamps, no cash or cheques, to above

address, for quarterly magazines. interesting note is that UPRI co-ordinators are totally open minded and totally objective, the assumption is NEVER made that any UFO is categorically extraterrestrial in origin.

FASTER THAN LIGHT edited by Chris Evers has smart cover and ditto pages, although unnumbered.. maybe like me hasn't mastered pagination yet ! Chinese UFO flap... Haunted Borley Rectory.. the Police and the paranormal.. British and USA reports by the law !.. those filmed shuttle phenomena, the excuses and the reality ?.. Mars lander that vanished victim of covered-up flaws before launching !.. Giant Flying Triangle lands in Gloucestershire December 1999... Oz sightings.. etc, etc. FTL from Chesnut House... that's how they spell it, Jenny !... 24 Chesnut Avenue, Queens Road, Hull. £10.50 for 6 issues.

**Recent e.mail received from Brian James
(Chairman of BUFORA and Research Director
of APRA).**

Not sure if anyone was out skywatching last night (6th April), but there was probably a once in a lifetime auroral display for this country, lasting from 2100 (6th April) till at least 0300 (7th April) this morning (When I finally went to bed). It was certainly visible from Wiltshire (I started the observing at Avebury) through to Oxfordshire in the early hours, but would have been visible anywhere with clear (and dark) sky.

There were no bright point sources of light for people to claim as UFOs, but there were very bright white, green and cherry-red arcs, glows, rays, ribbons and streamers that people may report as unusual. Between 0000 and 0130 this morning at times the sky had aurora from my northern horizon to about 30 deg elevation South and covered over 75% of the sky. Some of the green and red glows may have been bright enough to be visible through the light glow of urban areas.

**UFO SIGHTING IN NEATLY BY
2 GROUP MEMBERS...**

Friday the 7th of April... 11.30 p.m... and my driver and I were returning to Netley Abbey along our usual Hamble Lane route after attending a social function at nearby Park Gate Legion.. Traffic was light but visible front and behind. Approaching that awkward traffic

island that leads right to Netley Abbey I spotted... how could one miss it ?... a huge reddish-orange "ball" low in the sky ahead of me, situated roughly just inland from the Hamble coastline to the right. I yelled out to my driver 'What the hell is that' ?

Afterwards I realised they were concentrating on negotiating the roundabout approach. I kept my eyes on the object for as long as it was un-obscured by the trees as we turned right.

The glow was still visible intermittently for a few more seconds of the total of approx. 15 seconds. We discussed it very briefly when we got home.. odd, really, but I was still rather stunned. I went to bed shortly and was too disturbed to sleep for quite a while. Phoned Steve next morning. He promised to field any other reports onto me. It wasn't until Monday teatime... the 10th April... that another of our other group members rang (Andy) with the story of the object that he had seen at 11.34 p.m. the next night (Saturday) moving slowly over the Nursling to Lordshill area... a glowing reddish orange "bar" that was only about 500 feet up and moving towards Romsey from Southampton water area. As he was driving, with his 4 yr old daughter, Andy pulled in and watched for an estimated total of 25 seconds. Other people were noticed looking up. One could theorise that Andy's description of a "bar" matched mine of a globe but from a side angle. Next day my phone enquiries to Eastleigh (Southampton) Airport and the Coastguard Headquarters drew a blank. But my call to the Southampton Daily Echo proved Gratifying...

(Hopefully by the next edition of SUFOG, more details will be available of this extraordinary sighting by 2 SUFOG members and hopefully the Southampton Daily Echo will print an article calling for more witnesses to come forward.... Steve Gerrard)...

**WATCH THIS SPACE..... !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
ET VISITS NETLEY ABBEY AND
SOUTHAMPTON....**

THE SUNDAY TIMES 26th March 2000 Revealed - Britain's 1950's Flying Saucer...

Saucerful of secrets ; the disc-shaped Avro plane was intended to fly at 2,500 mph IT is the nearest the RAF got to a UFO. Recently discovered photographs taken at a secret laboratory in the 1950s reveal for the first time how close Britain came to developing a saucer-shaped stealth fighter after the second world war. The pictures, taken at a research centre in Canada, show a revolutionary ultra-high-speed jet fighter designed by the British engineer John Frost. Aviation experts who studied the pictures last week said the jet incorporated some of the features on America's stealth fighter plane. Work on the aircraft in the 1950's was code-named Project Y. Frost and his team initially set out to build a disc-shaped machine with vertical takeoff, but ended with a sleek, arch-shaped aircraft. "The pictures are a wonderful find," said David Windle, who has researched the history of Project Y. "It is technology that Britain just lost and it is a pity the project was abandoned. Who knows what would have happened if they had pursued it." The photographs were taken at a laboratory in Malton, near Toronto, where Frost was working with Avro-Canada, a subsidiary of the British firm Avro, to develop a jet fighter for the Canadian government. He wanted to create an aircraft which could fly at 2,500 mph and take off and land on its tail. The existence of Project Y has been known about for years, but no pictures of the aircraft have ever been found. An aviation researcher accidentally discovered the photographs in a file at the Public Records Office in Kew. An elongated saucer shape was used because of the revolutionary "radical flow" jets designed to power it. The engines were designed to emit the exhaust gases from several small nozzles, increasing the thrust of the jet.

Aviation experts said last week that the prototype vehicle would have been almost invisible to radar because of its slim cross-section. It would also have been more likely to evade enemy missiles because of the lower heat output through the numerous jet outlets. It is not known why the revolutionary jet never went into production, but the project was abandoned before the plane had its first test flight.

Reach for the sky ; despite its sleek look, the Avro never flew. Alex Raeburn, then assistant

superintendent of manufacturing at Avro, described the life of secrecy for those on the base. "The security was very tight," he says. "Armed guards were stationed on the doors and drawings were taken away as soon as we'd made the component. In fact, we never knew exactly what it was we were making."

Verne Morse, one of the team who worked on the secret project, said he was amazed any pictures had survived because of the total secrecy surrounding the project. He described how he saw a subsequent model designed by the team. "When I saw it [the plane] for the first time I was stunned," he said. "I'd heard rumours we were working on a flying saucer, but I dismissed them. Now, here I was looking at it, and I was speechless". In 1954, the Canadian government decided to end the development of the aircraft. The American Air Force took over the project and later a scaled-down version of the plane became an "air jeep", which was nicknamed the Avrocar.

Raeburn said he witnessed test pilot Spud Potocki flying the saucer-shaped craft. "I remember him flying up to the hanger windows and looking in like a humming bird might do. When he flew in cold weather the engines sucked pieces of ice off the puddles. They'd float around in the air, shining in the sunlight".

Professor Michael Graham, professor of aerodynamics at Imperial College, said ; "In the 1950s there was a lot of interest in different aircraft shapes. This is built like a kind of flying wing. Its ability to hover is useful for landing in rough places." Whilst Frost worked on Project Y, American engineers were developing their own ultra-high-speed jets at desert bases in California and Nevada, which led to the development of spy planes such as the U2. In 1961, however, despite the successful flights of the Avrocar, the American Air Force halted all funding for the company's researchers. There were no more British-designed flying saucers and Frost left Avro and moved to New Zealand, where he died.

Last week, Tony, his son said : "Dad was a brilliant artist who was always designing things, but he combined that skill with being a very capable mathematician and great lateral thinker".

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**SUFOG'S MIB
COLUMN...**

Hello to all group members and readers. This month I have included another account of what happened during a ghost watch back

in 1995 when I was part of a small group that did quite a few of these watches. The account is not edited in any way, so what you read is exactly what I wrote the day following this encounter.

This is also a taster because at the next SUFOG meeting I will personally be talking about some of my experiences to the group. So please come along and see what you make of some of the things that I have experienced in the past. I also hope to play recordings of anomalous sounds recorded on one such Ghost hunt.

So come along on May 18th and make up your own mind.

See you all soon.

Steve R.
(SUFOG's own MIB!!!)

Date : 12/5/95

Time : 9 - 12 p.m.

Location : Netley Abbey (Infirmary)

Weather Conditions : Overcast, Windy and Cold.

Tonight, some of the group were present, with only a couple missing. What we experienced this night is probably the strangest phenomenon that I have been witness to up to this time.

What we all experienced this night started when we had all gathered in the Infirmary at the far end of the room (from where you enter). It was dark inside but there was enough ambient light to see. We were all

The first circles of 2000...

That's right folks, they have started to arrive and even earlier this year with the first formation appearing on the 11th March 2000. But, the surprising thing is, that the first formation DID NOT appear in England, but in Spain of all places. 3 formations have been reported and what follows is a breakdown of the formations.

11th March : Els Omellons, nr Las Garrigues, Spain...
Two large circles approx. 85 feet and 118 feet in dia.
The newspaper El Periodico claimed that they were hoaxes though.

18th March : Grately, SW of Andover, Hampshire..
Unknown - Unconfirmed Report.

10th April : Danebury Hill Fort, south of Andover... A rough looking formation approx. 201 feet long. A sort of 'shell' shape with a path leading away from it. Very obvious damage and bruising to stems.

(Thanks to Paul Vigay and the International Crop Circle Database)...

watching the other end of the room (the one you enter by) when we all observed what appeared to be a tree forming on the end wall. As we all watched the tree, that was just an outline at first, it appeared to become slowly three dimensional until it was a manifestation of a tree some 6 - 7 feet in height. we were all dumfounded by what we saw, until it just melted away.

Also this night something unknown appeared to be manifesting itself under the small window at the same end of the room ; it was almost like some kind of animal ?

I also observed some small spirit lights and also some flashes of low intensity light that were barely noticeable.

SUFOG MEETING 20th APRIL..
BY ERNIE SEARS..

WOW ! Is about the right summing up of our April meeting at the Victoria Social Club, Victoria Road, Netley Abbey ! With a record turnout of Eight people... yes, EIGHT !.. OK.. sarcasm will get no no where... it was rather exciting, progressive, and definitely paranormal ! Nothing to do with our Steve having to leave at 8.15 I am sure (?) so stop moaning, mate... (Me moan, I wouldn't dream of it... !!!!).

No, after he had run through the programme for that night and other stuff and gone we found ourselves discussing experiences beginning with my and Andy Phillip's separate and consecutive nights encounters which are hopefully set for inclusion in the local ECHO for Bank holiday Monday 24th April... see stop-press extra in the current SUFOG magazine. Lots of personal incidents came up from that led on to ghosts, healing, UFO's of course, etc etc and I was able to demonstrate.. since the atmosphere was just right in our refurbished clubroom... the "energy" which I have used for "healing" since a close encounter in 1978 when I lived in Portswood, Southampton... the last of three such by the way but NOT "the last" ! Steve Rider gave some interesting anecdotes on his paranormal experiences.. which led to my explaining some strange "dreams" he mentioned during which I transferred that "energy" via Steve's hand which went around all of us ! Nothing unusual... to me... but Bill.. and his lady wife, Andy Phillips, Davinia et al, all gave out various sounds or comments of surprise ! Bill, in particular,

showed us the bright red spots on his hands which he first encountered when visiting my flat after a skywatch and now again, at the meeting, when I mentioned the stone artefact he was impressed to pick up there... a relic of Lacock Abbey 1987. I was able to explain that I believed all this was the energy that exists throughout the cosmos which we can ALL tap into once we get the right conditions... a UFO encounters one way ! Plenty of laughs there too... especially when dear Davinia had to begin disrobing... a phenomenon she first encountered at my talk last May ! "Energy" produces warmth in people ! Bill's subconscious envisaged the stone and up came the spots !

A really significant "synchronicity", I reckon, was Steve Rider talking about an author and a well known lady abductee... much of which I missed because my glass case was minus the glasses and my hearing aid had been left at home (oh the perils of old age !). However, a recap found Steve possessed THREE of Ray Fowler's classic books that I'd been looking for for over four years or more ago. I'm in line to have him lend them to me ! Ta ! Another door I think I might go through. Maybe one of those that I shared with Betty Andreasson in the seventies long before I'd read Ray's first book on her abduction. I'm urged to write : 'MOVING INTO PLACE' on the small pad which sits before me as I finish. Hmmm!

Ernie Sears (Group Scribe and story teller)...

Thanks Ernie for that insight to the group meeting that I unfortunately had to leave early because of working commitments. From the feedback that I have had about the meeting, it seems, yet again, that I have missed an eventful incident that SUFOG members have been involved in event when I am not there... Ahhhh the Avesbury memory just comes flooding back..... Maybe the next time... 24th June .. will be the time for me

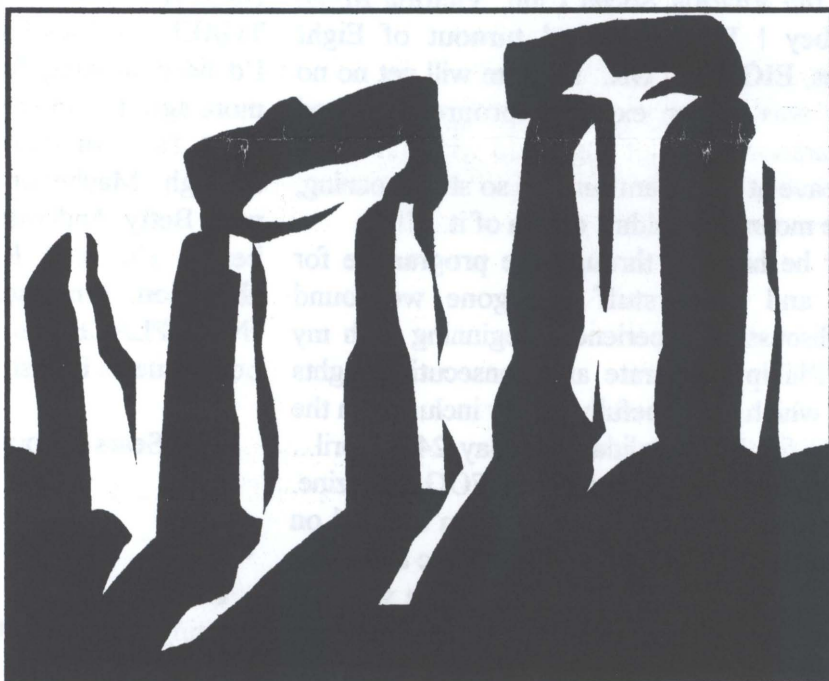
Steve Gerrard (Missing things yet again...)

SUFOG REPORT FOR 1999.

THE WAY AHEAD FOR 2000.

PRODUCED BY STEVE GERRARD.

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- Section 3** : Number of guest speakers in 1999.
- Section 4** : Group income and Expenditure for 1999.
- Section 5** : Membership numbers for 1999.
- Sections 6** : Total number of UFO reports for 1999.
- Section 7** : What 2000 holds for SUFOG.
- Section 8** : Special thanks to....
- Section 9** : Web Site.

SECTION 1.

Over the past year, we have had a total of 6 meetings, 3 group meetings held on a Sunday evening and 2 on a Sunday afternoon with invited speakers (See section 3).

Sunday Evening Group Meetings...

At the Sunday evening meetings we had the following attendance's :

January 17th : 4 people.
April 18th : 4 people.
June 27th : 3 people.
September 5th (AGM) : 4 people.

Total : 15 people.
Average of 4 people attending meetings.

Sunday Afternoon Lectures :

At the Sunday afternoon lectures we had the following attendance's :

March 28th: 13
May 23rd : 5

Total : 18 People
Average of 9 people attending meetings.

SECTION 2.

In 1999, we had 5 skywatches,

SECTION 3.

Over the past 12 months, we have invited 2 guest speakers of varying experiences and with much to offer. These speakers were Mr. Busty Taylor on the 28th March with 13 People attending his very interesting lecture which we made a profit of £ 14.10. In May, Mr. Ernie Sears finally gave his lecture which had previously been postponed. But, again this time only 5 people attended, but we still went ahead and those there were treated to a

very interesting lecture. With ticket sales and sales from tea and coffee we still made a loss of around £ 15. Bearing in mind we made a profit of £ 14.10 from Busty Taylor's talk in March, we made a net loss of around £ 1.00.

SECTION 4.

Income : £ 1141.41

Expenditure : £ 909.48

Balance carried forward for 2000 : £ 231.93

INCOME.

1998 Balance : £ 104.10

Newsletter Subscriptions : £ 175.00

Donations : £ 35.00

Meetings (x 3) : £ 31.60

Tickets Sales (Speakers) : £ 46.50

Misc. (Books/Videos/Audio/tea / coffee) : £ 170.50

Conference 99 : Ticket sales : £ 577

Conference 99 : Programs : £ 3.90

Car Boot Sales : £ 32.00

Interest on account : £ 0.90p

EXPENDITURE.

Including : Advertising, Photocopies, Membership Cards, A4 Card, Skywatch Food, Postage, Stationary, Tea / Coffee / Milk, Speakers Expenses etc...

Xmas Food : £ 30.00

Newsletter Photocopies : £ 40.00

Hall Hire : £ 67.65

Stationary : £ 40.03

Busty Taylor Exp. : £ 25.00

Car Boot : £ 5.00

Avebury Trip : £ 50.00

M.Robinson Train Fare : £ 30.00

Conference 99 Venue : £ 616.00

The group made losses through our Sunday evening meetings, where we cancelled 2 on the night and lost £ 30.00. As for the Sunday afternoon talks : £ 50.00 in ticket sales & sales of mags etc £ 14.10 Total £ 64.10 The venue and speaker costs were £ 55.00 which meant a profit of £ 9.50. So, the year 2000 hopefully will be a better year for us and hopefully we will not sail close to the wind again and make a bit more of a profit.

SECTION 5.

At the end of 1998, we had a membership of 44 subscribers to the newsletter and in 1999, that figure had risen to 46. Also, towards the end of 1999, a number of renewal forms were posted out, but we still have 4 of these not returned. Bearing this in mind, the group is still running at a membership of around the same mark as in 1998.

SECTION 6. **UFO REPORTS 1998 - 1999..**

	1998	1999
JANUARY	2	1
FEBRUARY	2	2
MARCH	0	0
APRIL	1	0
MAY	0	0
JUNE	0	0
JULY	1	3
AUGUST	0	0
SEPTEMBER	1	2
OCTOBER	4	0
NOVEMBER	0	0
DECEMBER	1	2
TOTAL	12	10

SECTION 7.

The year from 1.1.99 - 1.1.2000 saw the Southampton UFO Group on the internet with our own e.mail address southampton@sufog.freemove.co.uk and our own web site at sufog.freemove.co.uk/index.htm.

This year saw our field trip to Avebury of Steve Rider (driver), Steve Gerrard (map reader and organiser), Ernie Sears (Our spiritual leader ?), Bill Smith and Andy Phillips who went along for the experience and became the experiencers !! We had a good weekend, and what capped it for everyone was the UFO sighting during the skywatch (I was looking the other way at the time !!!).

Also, October saw the date of our Conference in Southampton, that turned out to be a resounding success and without the help of people in the group (See section 9), this event would of been a failure. Well done everyone.....

SECTION 8.

Finally, I would like to thank the following people for their help and support throughout 1999 and hopefully it may continue into 2000.

- Steve Rider has been an inspiration to me in not giving up with the group. We both have had our problems throughout 1999, but Steve has supported the group and has contributed some very good ideas. Thanks Steve...
- Mr Bill Smith - For his help with speakers / meetings and for being our Video and Sound technician.
- Mr Ernie Sears - For his help with the newsletter and his comments and columns contained there-in. Also for not letting me give up and calling it a day with the group.
- Group members Andy Philips and Mrs D.Reynolds for their support at group meetings, skywatches and for the phone calls alerting me to items on the Television, Radio and the Press.
- Finally, all you fellow researchers out there including my great friend Roy Lake of the London UFO Studies group, who have given me help, advise and support over the past year(s).

SECTION 9.

The Web Site has been up and running since the 24th November and has been visited as follows :

1999 : Home Page : 264
Photographs : 57
Diary : 61
Reports : 45
Links : 68

7.1.2000 : Home Page : 335
Photographs : 97
Diary : 65
Reports : 53
Links : 74

Total : 495

624

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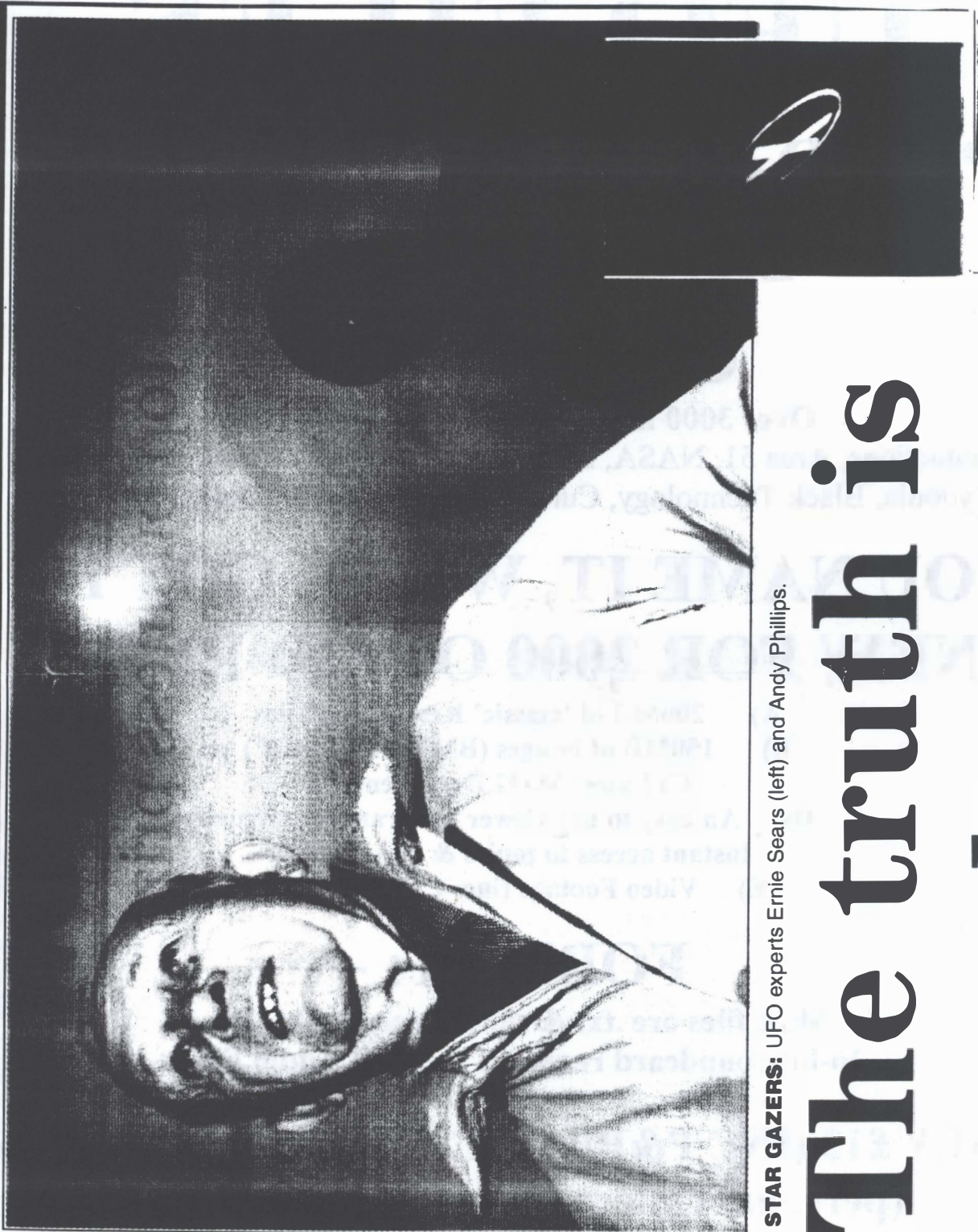
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SOUTHAMPTON EVENING ECHO
27/4/2000.

MYSTERIOUS UFOS SPOTTED IN HAMPSHIRE SKIES



STAR GAZERS: UFO experts Ernie Sears (left) and Andy Phillips.

The truth is over here . . .

Special report
by **Malcolm Prior**

IT'S A MYSTERY that would not be out of place on cult sci-fi series *The X-Files*.

But even television's top UFO investigators Mulder and Scully would have their work cut out for them in Hampshire.

If our very own alien spotters are to be believed, the county is a top destination for uncanny visitors from other worlds.

And they point to two recent near-identical sightings in the night skies around Southampton to support their claim.

The first, reported by Netley pensioner Ernie Sears, took place as he returned from a dance in Park Gate at around 11.30pm one Friday.

Grandfather-of-two Ernie, 75, who has been a member of the Southampton UFO group for nine years, was shocked when he saw a strange object in the sky.

Ernie, from Ashburton House in Rotary Court, said: "I spotted a huge reddish-orange ball low in the sky ahead of me, just inland from the Hamble coastline.

"I kept my eyes on the object for as long as it was unobscured by the trees.

"The glow was still visible intermittently for a few more seconds before vanishing."

It soon became clear that Ernie's mysterious sighting was not a one off.

Almost 24 hours later a similar object was spotted in the skies over Romsey.

At 11.34pm, Southampton dad Andy Phillips was returning from visiting relatives in North Baddesley when he noticed a glowing bar in the sky.



X-FILES: Mulder and Scully should come to Hampshire.

A fellow UFO enthusiast Andy, 36, from Copeland Road, said: "It was about 100ft in length and it was throbbing. I stopped to have a better look and saw it was flying very slowly.

"It was there for about 25 seconds then it just disappeared like someone had switched off a light."

Together, the two sightings have convinced the UFO group's leader, Steve Gerard, that other-worldly beings are paying increasingly regular visits.

Steve, 37, from Weston Grove Road, Weston, has also shown the Echo video footage of a similar glowing object flying over the skies of Portsdown Hill, captured less than a month before the latest sightings.

He said: "About five per cent of sightings we have cannot be explained.

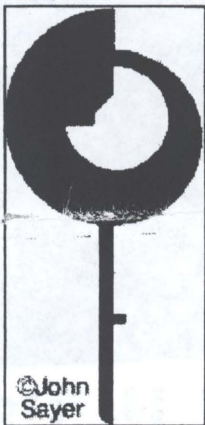
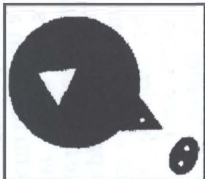
"You have to be very naive to think we are the only life forms around."

Now the 75-strong group, which has links around the world, is hoping others can corroborate the latest sightings or even add to their records.

That many will remain sceptical does not worry them.

Ernie said: "Seeing is believing. It can really change your whole life."

● *If you saw the lights described on either the night of Friday, April 7, or Saturday, April 8, then the group would like to hear from you on 023 8044 8194 or 0777 6055347.*

Ref.	Date created (if known)	Date found	Location/Description <i>All diagrams © Paul Vigay unless otherwise stated</i>	County/ State	Crop type	Grid ref.
<u>sp00aa</u> Spain	? Mar	11th Mar	Els Omellons, nr Las Garrigues Two large circles approx 85' and 118' in diameter. The newspaper El Periodico claimed that they were hoaxes though.	Barcelona	Wheat	Unknown
<u>uk00aa</u> UK	? Apr	10th Apr	Danebury Hill Fort, south of Andover A rough looking formation approx 201' long. A sort of 'shell' shape with a path leading away from it. Very obvious damage and 'cutting' to stems. 	Hampshire	Oilseed rape	Unknown
<u>uk00ab</u> UK	Unknown	25th Apr	Farningham A standing triangular shape surrounded by a circle.	Kent	Oilseed rape	Unknown
<u>uk00ac</u> UK	Unknown	26th Apr	Cherhill A circle containing a triangle of standing crop and a small pointed triangle to one side. 	Wiltshire	Oilseed rape	<u>SU</u> <u>040708</u>
<u>uk00a?</u> UK	Unknown	16th Apr	All Cannings Down A single circle approx 40' dia. This is most likely a gress patch around a tumulus or something. This has been verified as simply a green patch of grass surrounding a tumulus.	Wiltshire	Oilseed rape	<u>SU</u> <u>093657</u>
<u>us00aa</u> USA	Unknown	24th Apr	Milan A formation of lines and circles. Awaiting confirmation and more details	Tennessee	Wheat	---